

**Remarks**

The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments and the following remarks.

SPECIFICATION

In the instant Office Action, the Examiner requested that the cross-reference to related applications in the specification be updated. The Examiner also requested that other related applications be referred to in the first sentence of the application (e.g., applications 10/021,264, 10/021,563, and 10/021,316).

The first sentence of the specification has been amended as requested by the Examiner.

PROVISIONAL DOUBLE PATENTING

Claims 1–20 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1–14 of co-pending application 10/187,057, and claims 1–27 of co-pending application 10/208,975.

Applicant acknowledges the provisional double-patenting rejection. Should the co-pending applications issue and the issued claims warrant a nonstatutory double-patenting rejection in the instant application, Applicant will take action at that time to overcome the double patenting rejection.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1–20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Saulpaugh (U.S. 6,789,126).

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Claim 1 as presently amended expressly recites in pertinent part:

“receiving a request from a requester at a my-services schema for location information of a user identity-based services schema, wherein the my-services schema describes the available services for a given user identity, the my-services schema having a schema that maintains data about other services in one or more service-related fields”

No new matter has been added; the Examiner's attention is directed to at least paragraphs [0112–0115] of the Applicant's published application.

Saulpaugh is directed to addressing message gates in a distributed computing environment. Saulpaugh discloses that services 112 and clients 110 may run in the distributed computing environment (col. 14, lines 53–55; Figures 6–8). A service 112 publishes an advertisement 132 for itself in space 114. The advertisement 132 specifies the service's XML schema and URI address (col. 14, lines 19–25).

Storage spaces are examples of services that enable clients and services to store, advertise, and address content. Clients may browse spaces for advertisements that match a desired set of capabilities. When a client finds a matching advertisement, a communication channel may be established which may enable bi-directional message passing to the service backing the advertisement (col. 16, lines 19–40). Thus, in Saulpaugh, clients hunt in spaces for a desired service. Saulpaugh fails to disclose a service that may be referred to by a client to discover services available to that client based on client identity.

Saulpaugh also discloses a service discovery mechanism that provides methods for clients to find services and to negotiate the rights to use some or all of a services capabilities (col. 32, line 25, to col. 34, line 7). Saulpaugh does not disclose that this service discovery mechanism is a service schema. Nor does Saulpaugh disclose that the

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mechanism maintains information about services available to a client based on client identity. Saulpaugh's service discovery mechanism is a search tool, not a my-services schema as claimed by the Applicant.

Therefore, Saulpaugh fails to disclose "wherein the my-services schema describes the available services for a given user identity, the my-services schema having a schema that maintains data about other services in one or more service-related fields" as expressly claimed by the Applicant.

Thus, Saulpaugh fails to disclose at least one of the expressly recited limitations of claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 is not anticipated by Saulpaugh. Claims 2-3 and 5-20 are dependent claims and distinguish for at least the same reasons as claim 1 in addition to adding further limitations of their own. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests that the instant § 102 rejections be withdrawn.

#### NEW CLAIMS 24-26

The Applicant submits that new claims 24-26 are allowable based on their dependency from allowable independent claim 1. No new matter has been added; the Examiner's attention is directed to the Applicant's published application, paragraphs [0116-0118].

#### CONCLUSION

Accordingly, in view of the above amendment and remarks it is submitted that the claims are patentably distinct over the prior art and that all the rejections to the claims have been overcome. Reconsideration and reexamination of the above application is requested. Based on the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that the pending claims be allowed, and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this

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case. If the Examiner believes, after this amendment, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

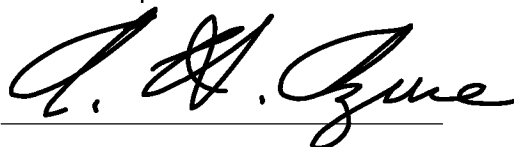
If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee that is not covered by an enclosed check please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 50-0463.

Respectfully submitted,

Microsoft Corporation

Date: July 5, 2006

By:



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